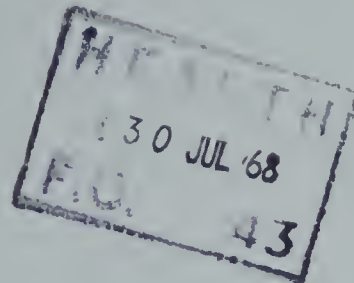




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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WILLITON
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1967.

C.F.R.KILLICK.,M.B.,Ch.B.,Medical Officer of Health

R.B.PELLET, M.A.P.H.I., Chief Public Health Inspector

T.C.POPE, M.A.P.H.I., Senior Additional Public Health
Inspector

L.WAREING, M.A.P.H.I., Extra Additional Public Health
Inspector

R.J.ASHMAN, Clerk.

WILLITON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR
THE YEAR 1967.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report upon the general sanitation and social conditions of your district and the general health of the population for the year 1967. The work of the public health department is dealt with under the following Sections.

<u>Section A.</u>	Vital Statistics & Social Conditions
<u>Section B.</u>	Water Supplies, Sewage & Refuse Disposal
<u>Section C.</u>	Housing
<u>Section D.</u>	Food Inspection & Supplies
<u>Section E.</u>	Public Health Nuisances, Complaints, Etc.
<u>Section F.</u>	Caravans & Camping
<u>Section G.</u>	Other Acts administered by the Department
<u>Section H.</u>	Summary of Inspections and Visits

Section A.

Vital Statistics & Social Conditions.

Apart from an epidemic of measles there has been very little in the way of infectious disease during the year. There has been a slowing up of housing improvement and new building owing to financial limitations imposed by the National emergency, and this has affected progress in other fields. Improvement and re-alignment work upon a section of the A 358 at Bicknoller is nearing completion but no other road works of a major character are likely to receive sanction in the near future, in spite of the rapid increase in traffic of all kinds.

Area	...	...	97,364 acres
Estimated Mid-year home Population	...	...	14,200
Number of Dwelling Houses...	...	...	5,044
Rateable Value	...	...	£ 544,909
Estimated product of a Penny Rate	...	...	£2,325

Live Births.

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	86	67	153
Illegitimate	9	7	16
	95	74	169

Birth Rate per Thousand population	...	11.9
Percentage of Illegitimate Births of total recorded births	...	9.4
Infant Mortality Rate per Thousand Live Births	...	41

Still Births.

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	2	3	5
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	-
	2	3	5

Deaths.

	M.	F.	Total
From all causes	98	104	202

Death Rate per Thousand population	...	14.2
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Health Services.

The district is served by Hospitals at Minehead and Musgrove Park, Taunton, and Hospitals for the aged sick at Williton, Bridgwater and Taunton. Ambulance services are available from both Minehead and Musgrove Park. Part three accommodation for 40 persons at Croft House, Williton, is fully occupied.

Notifiable Diseases.

Notified.

Smallpox	...	Nil
Scarlet Fever	...	"
Diphtheria	...	"
Enteric Fever	...	"
Measles	...	405
Whooping Cough	...	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	"
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	"
Dysentery	...	1
Malaria	...	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	"
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	"
Erysipelas	...	"
Q. Fever	...	"
Food Poisoning	...	2
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	...	Nil
" (Other)	...	"

Section B.

Water Supplies.

The standard of purity of supplies generally was very good and adequate in quantity. In the few cases where unsatisfactory samples were recorded, immediate remedial action was taken. The possibility of a mains supply to the village of Luxborough has been investigated by the West Somerset Water Board and possible sources are being tested.

Results of analysis of samples from piped supplies are as follows-

Raw Water

<u>Bacteriological</u>	...	Satisfactory-	87	Unsatisfactory-	67
<u>Chemical</u>	...	"	16	"	1

Treated Water

<u>Bacteriological</u>	...	"	235	"	16
<u>Chemical</u>	...	"	41	"	2

Sewage Disposal

Sixteen parishes have main drainage with efficient disposal systems, and parts of two other parishes have main drainage. Government imposed financial restrictions have caused the temporary suspension of schemes for the provision of adequate facilities and the improvement of existing installations in several villages.

Refuse Disposal.

Disposal is on five semi-controlled tips and all parishes are receiving regular collections. Williton, Porlock, Dunster and Stogursey are collected weekly, with fortnightly collections in other parishes.

The problem of tipping space is becoming acute and the possibility of combining with neighbouring authorities in this field is being explored. One of the five semi-controlled tips, which has been in use for a number of years at Lodge Rocks quarry, will shortly be closed and reinstatement of the surface is being carried out.



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Section C.Housing.

Of the 5044 permanent dwellings in the district, 947 are owned by the Local Authority and there are a further five in course of erection. Private dwellings in course of erection number 43. Applications for Council Houses total 154 and for Old People's Dwellings, 126. There are also 227 applications which are considered to be non-urgent.

Rent Act, 1957.

There have been no applications for Certificates of Disrepair under the above legislation.

Section D.Food Inspection & Supplies.Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number inspected	2040	9	97	9796	3570
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u>					
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	1	6	12	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	224	2	1	408	197
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than T.B. or Cysticerci	10.9	33 $\frac{1}{3}$	7.2	4.2	5.6
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	11
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	.14	Nil	Nil	Nil	.42
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	9	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to refrigeration	9	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>Weight of Meat condemned (Lbs)</u>					
(a) Tuberculosis	18	Nil	Nil	Nil	255
(b) Cysticercus Bovis	235	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Other	3105	20	206	1895	1524
Total -	3358	20	206	1895	1779

Slaughtering & Slaughterhouses.

Five licenced slaughterhouses are operating and 100% meat inspection has been maintained. The number of carcasses inspected shows an increase over the previous year of 1086, with cattle up by 310 and sheep by 1030. Pigs showed a reduction of 446, whilst calves were only slightly less than the previous year.

Two informal notices have been necessary.

There are 17 registered slaughtermen.

Food Premises, Etc.

Food hygiene standards throughout the district have been reasonably well maintained, but informal action for infringements was necessary in 23 cases.

Section E.

Complaints of various kinds received and dealt with by the department numbered 106. There were none of an unusual nature.

Section F.

Caravans & Camping.

There are 20 sites licenced under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, and three under the Public Health Act, Section 269.

The problem of seasonal camping and caravanning, for which there is insufficient provision, continues to be a source of trouble from the point of view of lack of sanitary facilities, and to a lesser extent litter and with the growing popularity of this type of holiday, the need for the provision of additional accommodation of an approved standard to cater for this type of holiday maker becomes more urgent.

Preparations for the establishment of a site at Stogursey for workers at the new power station at Hinkley Point are well advanced.

Section G.

Factories Act, 1937.

There are 50 factories, including five licenced slaughterhouses in the district. The majority are of the light engineering type where machinery of some kind is in use, whilst some are of a temporary nature such as building sites, etc.

Outworkers resident in the district number 40, of which seven are employed by firms operating outside your district.

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963.

Premises registered under this Act number 75, classified as follows-

Offices - 15: Retail Shops - 40: Catering Establishments - 19:

Fuel Storage Depots - 1.

During the year 49 inspections and re-inspections have been carried out and 18 notices served.

Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1951.

There are three premises licenced under the above Order for pig keeping. Generally speaking, installations are maintained in a satisfactory manner and all are of the solid-fuel boiler type.

Regular inspection by the Council's Officers is carried out.

Pet Animals Act.

Rag Flock Act.

There are no pet shops within the district or premises dealing in rag flock.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act.

Four premises are registered under this Act, in each case for the boarding of Cats only, and all four establishments are satisfactorily run.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act.

This has been an average year in the field of pest control with the operative fully employed dealing with complaints, sewer treatments and the operation of the several contracts. These latter now number nine.

Dead rats actually recovered during the year amounted to 1,305 and the number of wasps nests destroyed was 62.

The arrangement with the Hatchet U.D.C. continues.

Section H.

Housing Acts, 1936-1954.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958.

Inspections	...	...	512
Informal Notices Served	...	...	26

Public Health Act.

Inspections

Drainage & Sewerage	...	...	163
Water Supplies	...	...	49
Refuse Collection & Disposal	...	...	245
Caravans & Camping	...	...	47
Filthy or Verminous Premises	...	...	34
Infectious Diseases	...	...	35
Nuisances	...	...	65
Disinfection of Premises	...	...	6
Water Courses	...	...	8
Public Conveniences	...	...	10
Disinfestations	...	...	10
Informal Notices Served	...	...	23
Statutory Notices Served	...	...	1

Food & Drugs Act.

Food Hygiene Regulations.

Inspections

Slaughterhouses	...	...	46
Food Premises	...	...	37
Catering Establishments	...	...	3
Unsound Food	...	...	10
Informal Notices Served	...	...	2
Statutory Notices Served	...	...	9

Factories Act.

Inspections	...	...	5
Informal Notices Served	...	...	2

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act.

Inspections.	...	...	14
Statutory Notices Served	...	...	11

Animal Boarding Establishments Act.

Inspections	...	...	2
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Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order.

Inspections	...	...	4
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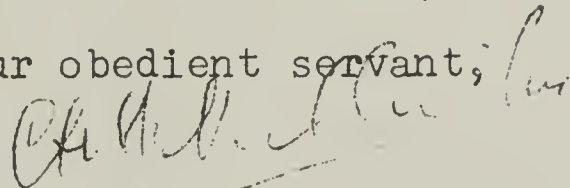
Civic Amenities Act.

Abandoned Vehicles	...	...	6
Notices Served	...	...	2

The co-operation and work of the staff of the Public Health Department is very much appreciated.

I am, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,



M.B. Ch.b

Medical Officer of Health.

